



**LOCAL**  
**Toy fundraiser**  
PAGE 2



**WOMEN**  
**Leadership Luncheon**  
PAGE 3



**SPORTS**  
**Volleyball action**  
PAGE 8

# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Town enters 'the red'

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

AGAWAM – As of last Thursday, Oct. 29, the Town of Agawam is now listed as a “red” community, which makes it a “high-risk” community for the spread of the coronavirus.

As of that date, there were 647 total cases reported in the town for the entirety of the pandemic.

But the numbers had been stagnant at about 500 for many weeks, despite their being eight nursing facilities and numerous retirement communities.

During the past two weeks, Agawam has seen an increase in cases, with rumors of large house parties and other gatherings said to be the blame for the uptick in cases. Agawam's situation is not unique, as the rest of the Commonwealth in Massachusetts has also seen a major uptick in cases.

New cases were being reported in the 100's and 200's when state testing reached a 0.8 percent positive rate. The daily case

RED | page 2

The halls of Agawam High School are quiet as the town shifts to remote learning for at least two weeks. PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Hearing continued as alternate sites emerge for new cell tower

By Shelby Macri  
[smacri@turley.com](mailto:smacri@turley.com)

AGAWAM – The Zoning Board of Appeals spoke about the ongoing public hearing for the Verizon cell tower, at the Oct. 26 meeting. The cell tower is purposed to be built adjacent to the Agawam Municipal Golf Course parking lot, though there are two alternate sites that were proposed.

With the current proposed site so close to the parking lot and the clubhouse building, a variance and special permit are required to build at that site. Board members visited the golf course to see where the proposed and alternate sites were located, this visit took place on Monday, Oct. 5.

“At the board's request, Verizon had conducted balloon floats at two alternate sites and the results of those balloon floats were discussed at the Oct. 26 meeting,” Planning and Development Director Marc Strange said. “The board prefers alternate site #1 and requested that Verizon perform further due diligence with regard to siting the cell tower at alternate site #1.”

At the request of the Zoning Board, a balloon test was done for all three sites. The tests were conducted on Monday, October 19 where weather balloons were tethered at the heights the towers would be at. The proposed site had the balloon at 115 feet above

TOWER | page 2



A balloon test yielded results that show two alternative sites for cell towers in Feeding Hills. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Falls sports continue



The Agawam High School girls volleyball teams plays at Holyoke High School recently. Fall sports are set to wind down pretty soon. More photos on page 8. PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## Community environmental groups request halt to Springfield-Longmeadow pipeline

AGAWAM – On Tuesday, October 27, 2020, the Columbia Gas Resistance Campaign delivered an open letter to Eversource CEO James Judge signed by 92 community organizations and 12 state and local politicians. The letter with the list of signatories is attached.

The signatories welcome Eversource to Western Massachusetts as successor to Columbia Gas and requests a meeting to discuss transitioning from fossil fuels toward energy conservation and non-combustible clean energy sources. The letter states, “If Eversource is, in fact, committed to implementing the policy con-

PIPELINE | page 2



Residents are still continuing to fight a gas pipeline expansion. SUBMITTED PHOTO



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IN THIS ISSUE

Crossword..... 3  
Public Safety ..... 3  
Opinion ..... 4  
School..... 6  
Sports ..... 8  
Classifieds ..... 10  
Public Notices.. 11

12 PAGES

PLEASE RECYCLE  
THIS NEWSPAPER

Toys for sale during next week

AGAWAM – The Agawam Zero Waste Club, Agawam Rotary Club, as well as the Agawam High School National Honor Society and SAVE Clubs are working together to organize the 5th annual Holiday Used Toy Exchange. This all volunteer team has modified the annual event to comply with COVID-19 guidelines.

General free public shopping will be online from Wed, Nov 4, through Tues, Nov 10, by going to Agawamrotary.org, selecting desired toys and filling out a form. Participants will be entered into a lottery and will be contacted by phone or email with an appointment. Toys will be distributed by appointment only at the Agawam Public Library parking lot, drive thru style, on Saturday Dec 5, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants must remain in their cars.

Donors that have already submitted pictures of toys for donation by the Nov. 1 deadline, will be contacted by phone or email for an appointment to drop off their toys. Drop off is by appointment only at the Agawam Public Library parking lot, drive-thru style, on Saturday, Nov 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please submit any questions to AgawamZeroWaste@gmail.com.

PIPELINE ■ from page 1

veyed in its public document, Commitment to Clean Energy & Carbon Neutrality, by 2030, the company needs to begin reducing natural gas distribution services provided by NStar and actively pursue non-combustible clean options like geothermal district heating and electric pump technologies.”

The letter also notes the dangers posed by gas fuel, from the Merrimack Valley explosions to the greenhouse gases emitted by burning natural gas to the methane escaping from leaky pipes, planned and unplanned releases, and ear-splitting “blowdowns”— all of which have a devastating impact on climate change and global warming. Leaked and burned gas both contribute to the toxic soup in the air in Springfield, twice named the “asthma capital of the country”. It notes as well the extraordinary financial cost – inevitably passed on to ratepayers – of unwarranted gas infrastructure expansion, and that

data has yet to be presented to justify the expense of the pipeline infrastructure expansion proposed by the Columbia Gas “Reliability” Plan.

Given these realities the writers request that Eversource abandon pipeline expansion plans in Western Massachusetts, including the proposed Longmeadow Supply Strategy Project; the construction of a 16” backbone main high-pressure (200 psi) pipeline running from a meter station to be built in Longmeadow and up into Forest Park, passing through a densely-settled environmental justice neighborhood in Springfield’s South End.

Finally, the letter advises that members of the Columbia Gas Resistance Campaign will be contacting CEO James Judge to schedule a meeting to discuss these issues and Eversource’s plans to move forward with its Commitment to Clean Energy & Carbon Neutrality.



Residents in Agawam and surrounding communities have filed lawsuits and other actions to try and slow the process. SUBMITTED PHOTO



It's a quiet scene at Granger School as only some faculty are now at the school each day. PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

RED ■ from page 1

count is now well above 1,000 and the positive test rate is nearing 2 percent.

Agawam’s daily incident rate rose sharply to 18.0 cases per 100,000 people, the measure used to determine what level risk a community is. Agawam needs a two-week measure of 8 or below to get out of the high-risk designation.

As a result of the spike in cases locally, and per an agreement with the teacher’s union, Agawam’s public schools are going fully remote for two weeks. This started on Monday and will continue through at least Nov. 13. With the trends in the state, the remote learning could continue through Thanksgiving, though town and school officials are hoping the two weeks at home will be enough along with measures the state put into place this week, including closing restaurants at 9:30 p.m. and instituting a curfew and state-at-home advisory from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Agawam’s health officials have been releasing updated coronavirus case numbers at least two times a week. Agawam’s latest

count was on Friday, Oct. 30 and said there were 692 reported cases. Nearly 400 are in the community-at-large with the rest at nursing facilities.

While Mayor William Sapelli has not issued any restrictions or orders himself, he has publicly advised people to be more responsible as it relates to social distancing and mask wearing, and limiting gatherings.

As of Friday, the gathering limit size will be 10, and police will be asked to break up larger gatherings if they are found at homes.

Agawam’s sports continue to play and it is likely the high school will be able to conclude its fall season. Agawam would have to be high-risk for three straight weeks before it would have to shut down. That third would be on Nov. 12, but Athletic Director David Stratton expects that the season will wind down early next week with just a few contests remaining.

Agawam was able to play sports this fall without any major issues, only adjusting to shutdowns that occurred at other schools.

TOWER ■ from page 1

ground, alternate site#1 had the balloon at 155 feet above ground, and alternate site #2 had the balloon at 165 feet above ground.

The results of this test were put out in a photographic documentation by the All-Points Technology Corporation, from that report it stated “Based on visual observations from surrounding areas, it appears the view sheds of Proposed Site and Alternate Site 1 share similar characteristics from the neighborhoods to the north. However, in general, Alternate Site 1 would be seen at a lower elevation on the horizon when compared to the Proposed Site at common locations.”

From less than a half mile away, a tow-

er at either location would be seen at heights above the tree canopy, this ranging to about 40 feet or more. While in the golf course parking lot the proposed site tower would be visible for most of the tower’s height, but a tower at alternate site 1 would only be visible above the tree line from the parking lot. Alternate site is located further south and would shift the majority of the view southward.

The board had requested Verizon to pay attention to alternate site 1, and Verizon agreed to their request. The public hearing was continued to Nov. 23, to allow Verizon to perform their due diligence for that site.

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# History, Crafts and Thanks this month at the Agawam Public Library

AGAWAM – November is a busy month at the Agawam Public Library. We are pleased to be hosting a few activities that are sure to appeal to a wide variety in our community. Join us all month as we collect notes of gratitude for our Thankful Project. This year has been challenging in every aspect of our daily lives. As 2020 comes to a close, we would like to acknowledge the positive and record the things that our community is thankful for. Leave us your note of gratitude in person, through email, by phone or social media and we will be sure to inscribe your sentiment on the community pumpkin. Our goal is to fill a pumpkin with the big and little things that we are thankful for during this season of gratitude.

On Monday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m., the library is hosting history teacher and lecturer Christopher Daley as he presents 1620: The First Year. As the 400th Anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims approaches, we are reminded of the trials and tribulations of the Pilgrims. The first part of the talk will examine the difficult voyage over the Atlantic and the decision to land on Cape Cod rather than the intended destination; near the Hudson River. The second part of the talk will focus on the beginnings of Plymouth Colony with a short discussion on the history of “Plymouth Rock.” Then the discussion will turn to the original aboriginal inhabitants of Patuxet and the plague of 1618 that obliterated nearly 100% of the village and where the site of that village might have been. Also, the laying out and building of the colony will be illustrated with a street diagram of the first dwellings and their inhabitants. The final part of the talk will recount the early scant encounters with the Wampanoag people, the appear-

ance of Samoset followed by a description of the arrival of Massasoit and his retinue in March of 1620/21 and the treaty he forged with the people of Plymouth. This program will be presented on Zoom. Please register on our website: [www.agawamlibrary.org](http://www.agawamlibrary.org) or call 413-789-1550.

The Bizarre Bazaar is back! Got any spare holiday ornaments, bows, or wreaths? Any unused needlework, craft foam or scrapbooking supplies laying around? We will be seeking donations of leftover or unused craft or holiday items so that “shoppers” can find new supplies. For everyone’s safety, we can only accept items in original packaging or in clear, plastic bags. Items must be from a smoke-free home. Sadly, we cannot accept any loose materials. Holiday trees and decorations must be no taller than 3 feet high. Donation days will be November 3, 5, 7, 10, 12 and 14 during regular library hours. Please place items in the marked bin in the library’s front lobby. Do not place items outside the library. Shoppers can join us by appointment on November 17, 19 and 21. Please call the library to make an appointment during regular library hours at 413-789-1550.

Our Adult Grab and Go Craft Bag will feature another two-for-one special. Inside, there are materials included to practice learning a calligraphy alphabet and a special ornament to create for the new year. Online registration for the craft open November 1, please visit our online calendar to register or call the library. Supplies are limited, so only serious inquiries, please.

Please call the library with any and all inquiries. 413-789-1550. Our online calendar is also available on our website, [www.agawamlibrary.org](http://www.agawamlibrary.org)

# Luncheon set for November 19

AGAWAM – The Women to Watch USA Western Mass Chapter Located in Agawam will be holding their November luncheon on November 19, 2020 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Max’s Tavern, Hall of Fame Drive in Springfield. It will be held in the outside tent. members and guests are asked to bring a mask and social distancing will be respected. LaTonia Naylor be the guest speaker for the luncheon.

Ms. Naylor’s has served youth and families in Springfield for over two decades as a volunteer and eventually earned a Master’s in Nonprofit Management and Philanthropy in order to switch career paths into the nonprofit sector. Ms. Naylor has co-found-

ed two nonprofit organizations; (2018) Parent Villages Inc., (2006) VITAL Center, Inc., and advised several nonprofit start-ups, she currently serves in the roles of Director of AmeriCorps and adjunct faculty member at Springfield College and adjunct faculty member at Worcester State University.

The November Women to Watch USA Western MA Chapter Luncheon is being sponsored by Danielle Suza of Fairway Mortgage Longmeadow and also Bling Boutique by Ayanna.

There will be great food and awesome networking and re-sourcing. There will also be raffle items from members businesses.



LaTonia Naylor will be the guest speaker at the next Women to Watch luncheon. SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Juried photography show announced

AGAWAM – The Friends of the Agawam Public Library are very excited to announce their First Open Juried Virtual Photography Show. We are not able to have our annual show at the library, but we want to continue to share the outstanding work of area photographers. The show benefits the Agawam Public Library and provides a platform to recognize and encourage these photographers. Awards totaling \$1340 will be determined by judging done on January 13. Amy S. Dane and Barbara Krawczyk, both well recognized photographers, will be the judges.

The show is divided into four categories of photography: creative, nature, photo-journalism and pictorial. The entry fee is \$25 per entry up to and including November 30, 2020. Starting December 1, the fee will be \$30. If we have not received sufficient entries by January 1, 2021, the show will be cancelled and all fees returned.

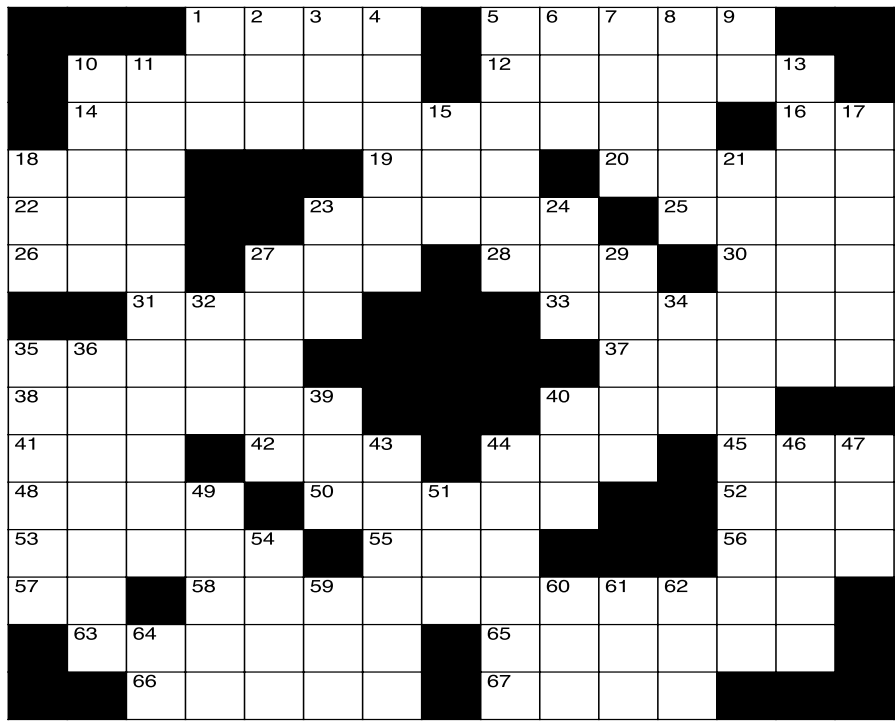
All images must be original, made by the photographer, captured by film or digitally, and cannot be previous entries in our show. For the show’s Prospectus and Entry Form, please visit [www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends](http://www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends). For further information please contact Bob Kadis at [r.kadis@comcast.net](mailto:r.kadis@comcast.net) or at 413-789-4814.

## ARREST LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 396 calls for service from Oct. 26 to Nov. 1 and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

There were no arrests recorded during the past week

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### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Upright post on a boat
- 5. Sentimental person
- 10. Native American tribe
- 12. Wear away
- 14. Where you’re going
- 16. Doctor
- 18. Popular Chinese dialect
- 19. One point east of due south
- 20. Northern sea duck
- 22. Note
- 23. Wives (law)
- 25. Trigonometric function
- 26. A way to communicate (abbr.)
- 27. Swiss river
- 28. No (Scottish)
- 30. Commercials
- 31. Large instrument
- 33. \_\_\_ Chantilly, \_\_\_ de Menthe
- 35. Small, saclike cavities

- 37. High and thin in tone
- 38. Treat extremely well
- 40. Famed track star Usain
- 41. Secure web connection (abbr.)
- 42. Rob of energy
- 44. Paving material
- 45. Cool!
- 48. Tip of Aleutian Islands
- 50. Indicates silence
- 52. Water in the solid state
- 53. Security interests
- 55. Popular hoopster Jeremy
- 56. Shed tears
- 57. Low frequency
- 58. Harmful bacterium
- 63. Common language: lingua \_\_\_
- 65. Standards of perfection
- 66. They consist of two parts
- 67. A detailed description of design

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. More (Spanish)
- 2. A subdivision of a play
- 3. Japanese title
- 4. More jittery
- 5. Fabric
- 6. Luke’s mentor \_\_\_ - Wan
- 7. Cleaving tool
- 8. Ancient city of Egypt
- 9. 36 inches
- 10. Farewell
- 11. Second to last
- 13. Improved by critical editing
- 15. Defensive weapon (abbr.)
- 17. Fancy attire
- 18. \_\_\_ Farrow, actress
- 21. Completely opposed
- 23. Supervises flying
- 24. Pouch
- 27. True firs
- 29. Mistake
- 32. Computing platform (abbr.)
- 34. Snake-like fish
- 35. Greatly horrify
- 36. Despicable person
- 39. Tell on
- 40. Ballplayer’s tool
- 43. Central Brazilian town
- 44. Court game
- 46. Land
- 47. “The Partridge Family” actress Susan
- 49. Retract a statement
- 51. Data executive
- 54. Capital of Yemen
- 59. Portable computer screen material
- 60. Electronic data processing
- 61. “Matt Houston” actor Horsley
- 62. Resinous substance
- 64. Rural delivery

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# Opinion

## SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

### Can I get Social Security with my municipal pension?

By Russell Gloor  
Guest columnist

**Dear Rusty:** I retired from a municipal Fire Department seven years ago at the age of 54. It is a private pension, and I was exempt from Social Security while I was working. I receive about \$50,000 per year in pension benefits. I recently got a letter from Social Security saying I needed eight more credits of work to qualify for Social Security benefits. I was wondering if I worked two more years, paying into Social Security, would I qualify for benefits, since I am on a municipal pension? *Signed: Retired Fireman*

**Dear Retired Fireman:** Although your municipal Fire Department pension would reduce your Social Security benefit, it will not eliminate it. So, if you work and earn those additional eight credits you will be entitled to a Social Security benefit.

Because of your non-covered municipal pension your Social Security benefit will be affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision, which affects anyone who has a pension from an employer which did not participate in Social Security where neither the employee nor the employer paid into Social Security. WEP uses a special benefit computation formula which will result in you getting a smaller benefit, but you will, nevertheless, get some benefit amount if you have accumulated at least 40 quarters of Social Security credit. Note that your Social Security benefit amount will be further reduced if you claim it at age 62, or any age prior to your full retirement age.

You earn Social Security credits by working in a job where you pay FICA payroll taxes on your earnings, and you can earn a maximum of four Social Security credits per year. For 2020, you'll earn one credit for each \$1,410 of earnings, up to a maximum of four credits for the year, but you don't need to work the entire year to get the credits. For example, if you work yet in 2020 and earn \$5,640, which is four times \$1,410, you'll earn the maximum four credits for this year.

You need a total of 40 quarter credits to become eligible for Social Security, and those credits never expire, so even old credits earned before your Fire Department career still count. And, even if small, this would be a benefit you have earned by contributing to Social Security, so there's little reason not to pursue it by gaining the needed additional credits.

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*Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

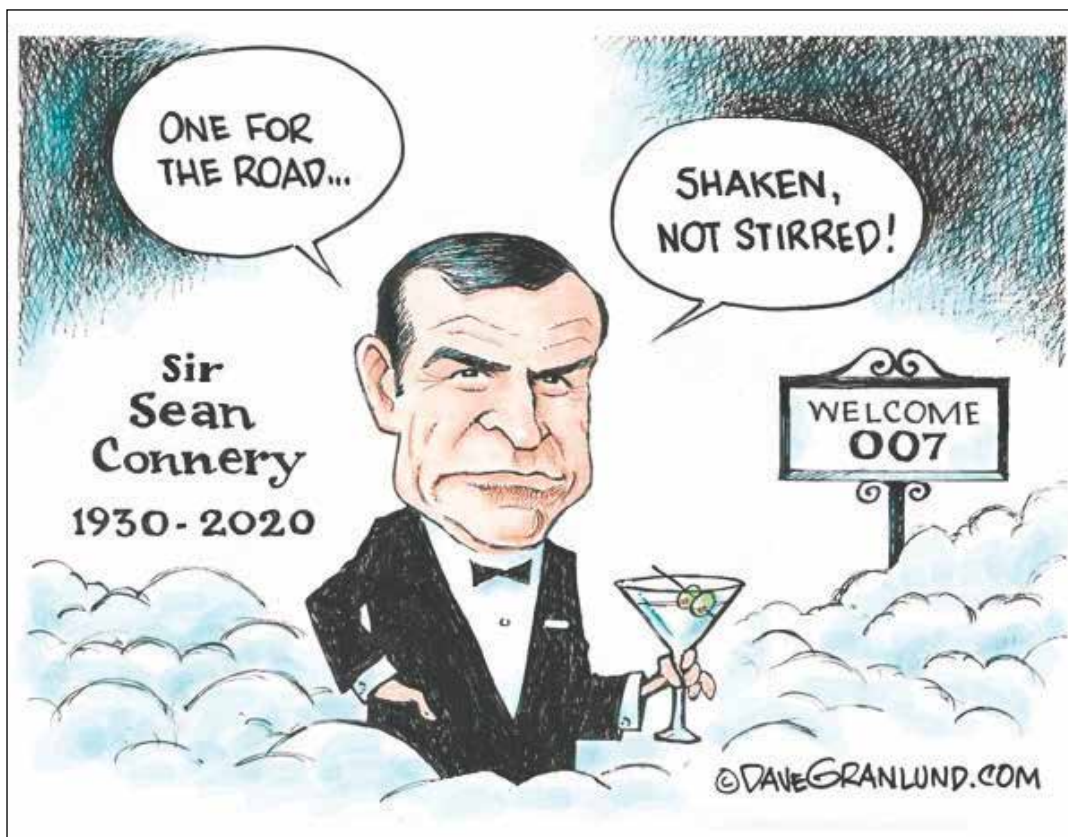


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## FAITH MATTERS

### ‘What’s New?’

What's new? Any time you may have asked this question of someone lately, the answer has usually been “nothing.” As we live through this time of pandemic together, many of us are finding one day blending into another, with very little new to experience or see. We've kind of settled into a pandemic routine of sorts and are very limited in terms of the options that used to be readily available to us. So there's understandably very little “new” to report on.

I thought about these things when I read what Jesus responded when he was asked what the greatest commandment was. He said (Matthew 22:37-39) “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

He was quoting from teachings found in the Old Testament (Deut 6:5 and Lev 19:18). Those teachings were already contained in what would have been referred to as the Law of Moses, so in some ways it was nothing new. You might wonder why Jesus didn't quote from the Ten Commandments. Well, in a sense he did – because if you look at the 10 commandments closely, you'll find that the first four tell us how to love God, and the last six tell us how to love our fellow human beings. So saying love God and love your neighbor as yourselves was actually summing up all of the Ten Commandments.

From this perspective it wasn't really anything

new – but it was revolutionary. It asked people then – and us today – to get out of the habit of legalism, and to look for the spiritual application. It's all about love. But that shouldn't be new to us either, right? Jesus brought everything down to the basics of the core of the Gospel message, which is love. “Love God and love neighbor” was his simple reply when asked what the greatest commandment was. It's nothing new.

Love should define who we are and how we live. We express love to God in our worship, in how we live our lives, and as we witness to the Creation all around us. We can do that, pandemic or no pandemic. Loving God is the first commandment, but Jesus said, “a second is like it”: love your neighbor as yourself. That means it is just as essential and fundamental. The two are inseparable. We need to think about how our lives have transformed the lives of others in some way because of love. It's nothing new. Transformed lives can result from getting involved in organized ways to address local or worldwide issues. Transformed lives can also result from something as simple as a kind word or a sympathetic ear. We can all do that, pandemic or no pandemic. Remember what Mother Teresa is credited with saying: “We can do no great things. We can only do small things with great love.” It's nothing new. Love God and love neighbor. So – what's new? Absolutely nothing! May our lives be lived as reflections of the greatest commandment. AMEN.



By Ken Blanchard,  
Pastor  
Agawam United  
Methodist Church

## An iconic song and an iconic tree commemorate Veterans Day

As we move closer to Veterans Day, our thoughts turn to the many men and women who serve or have served our country, and how we can best remember and support them. I think back to when I was a young adult and a mother from town tied yellow ribbons all over Ware to support her son who was serving overseas. I also remember the fad of those little yellow magnetic ribbons that folks put on their bumper as a show of solidarity. Did you ever wonder where “tie a yellow ribbon” came from? Read on to learn a bit of trivia about an iconic song and an iconic tree.

We've all heard the 70s song, sung by Tony Orlando and Dawn that popularized the yellow ribbon and made it the folk symbol that it is today. Legend has it that the inspiration for the song did come from a convict, released from prison and on a long bus ride home. His wife was instructed to tie a yellow ribbon around the oak tree in the center of town if she wished to give him a second chance. If he saw it then he knew to get off the bus. Reportedly the tree was covered in yellow ribbons!

In 1981, eight years after the song's initial release, it rose in popularity once again. The yellow ribbon became a symbol of loyalty and patriotism

for the 52 American hostages being held in Iraq. “If you still want me, whoa, tie a yellow ribbon 'round the ole oak tree.”

I thought it fitting that the oak tree was chosen to bear such an important symbol of our culture. It is a tall, stately tree and its wood is stronger and more durable than that of most trees, yet to me it is humble. At the height of foliage season an oak doesn't shout “look at me!” like other trees do. It simply waits for the hoopla put on by the maples to pass, and then it delights us with a subtle beauty that is equally appealing.

Here are some oak tree statistics: There are some 450 species of oak. Some of them are evergreen, holding onto their leaves throughout the winter months. These oaks are located in the more southern, warmer regions of our country. Even though our oaks are deciduous, it takes a long time for them to completely defoliate. Sometimes it is the next season's emerging leaves that finally push the old ones off. This year it took an October snowfall.

Did you know that oaks get struck by lightning more than any other tree? This is likely due to their height, some topping over 80 feet at maturity.

## ON THE GARDEN



Roberta McQuaid



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## AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Library to feature history retrospective

AGAWAM – Christopher Daley presents “1620: The First Year” on Monday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m. This is a virtual event and will be held on Zoom. Please call the library (413-789-1550) or click here to register. As the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims approaches, we are proud to host history teacher and lecturer, Christopher Daley as he examines the trials and tribulations of the Pilgrims who landed on our shores in 1620. Mr. Daley will discuss the voyagers’ decision to land on Cape Cod; the beginnings of Plymouth Colony; and the early encounters with the Wampanoag people.

Mr. Daley has been lecturing all over New England for over 25 years on historical topics of interest. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. from Bridgewater State University in Political Science and History. He is currently a history teacher in Kingston, Massachusetts.

## Grange holding Holiday Bazaar

AGAWAM – Community Grange #382 of Feeding Hills will hold their Annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Grange Hall located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills. All proceeds will benefit the building fund and the public is invited to attend. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available.

### GARDEN ■ from page 4

The oak is a member of the beech or Fagaceae family. One unique feature that the oak has and other members of the family do not is that its nut is carried in a cap. The nut and cap together are called an acorn. Acorns are a valuable food source for wildlife. Wild turkey, deer, larger songbirds and squirrels among others depend on the nut for surviving the winter. One way to tell the difference between species of oak tree is by their acorns. Examine how they wear their “cap.” The cap of the white oak is about one-quarter the size of the oblong shaped nut. The red oak, on the other hand, has a squatty, saucer-like cap covering a more globose shaped nut.

Most oaks tolerate transplanting the best when they are young and small in size. The pin oak is one exception; its shallow, fibrous root system allows it to be transplanted as a larger specimen. For this reason, the pin oak is widely used for home landscaping. It is also highly sought after because of its unique, pyramidal shape: the lowest branches are pendulous, the middle are horizontal and the top are upright.

Did you know that cork is harvested from the bark of a species of oak tree? Yes, the cork oak grows in Spain, Portugal and parts of Northern Africa.

The oak tree can grow to be very old. At the writing of my reference book back in 1983, there was a 400-year-old white oak growing in Maryland by the name of the Wye Oak. It topped off at 95 feet tall, 165 feet wide and eight feet in diameter.

This Veteran’s Day, why not tie a yellow ribbon ‘round your oak tree or better yet, thank a veteran for his or her service.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

## Deadline set for connection installation

AGAWAM – The Town of Agawam’s Department of Public Works has announced that Friday, Nov. 6 will be the last day to apply for road opening permits for the installation of water, sewer, or drain connections that have to be installed by the Town.

All connections applied for after the deadline will be installed in the spring of 2021.

This notice does not apply to connection which have been previously installed to the property line of an existing property.

## Disaster loans available for businesses

ATLANTA, Ga. - The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today that Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and private nonprofit organizations in Essex, Middlesex and Worcester counties in Massachusetts as a result of frost occurring May 6 through June 2, 2020.

“These counties are eligible because they are contiguous to one or more primary counties in New Hampshire. The Small Business Administration recognizes that disasters do not usually stop at county or state lines. For that reason, counties adjacent to primary counties named in the declaration are included,” said Michael Lampton, acting director of SBA’s Field Operations Center East.


Under this declaration, the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program is available to eligible farm-related and nonfarm-related entities that suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. Except for aquaculture enterprises, SBA cannot provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers and ranchers.

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates of 3 percent for small businesses and 2.75 percent for private nonprofit organizations of all sizes, with terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition. These working capital loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills that could have been paid had the disaster not occurred. The loans are not intended to replace lost sales or profits.


Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA’s secure website at [DisasterLoan.sba.gov](http://DisasterLoan.sba.gov) and should apply under SBA declaration # 16676, not for the COVID-19 incident.

Disaster loan information and application forms may also be obtained by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an email to [DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov](mailto:DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov). Loan applications can be downloaded from [sba.gov/disaster](http://sba.gov/disaster). Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Submit completed loan applications to SBA no later than May 17, 2021.



# baby's first Christmas



## Benson William Hart

**March 7, 2020**  
**Parents:** Greg and Nikki Hart, Chicopee  
**Grandparents:** William and Deb Godek, Chicopee  
 David and Kathleen Hart, Holyoke

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 This offer is available to all babies born in 2020.  
 Pictures will be published the week of December 14-18, 2020.

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_


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**Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 4, 2020**



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# School

## College visits, prep adjust to COVID restrictions

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School Counseling Team is working to put on a virtual college visit for upperclassmen looking into colleges. Students have to be registered for specific college visits and need to be registered 24 hours in advance.

The counseling team consists of Sue Niles, Jennifer LaPoint, Kathryn Dromey, Rich Veres, and Susan Galereave and they work together to provide information and opportunities to students. The school will be using a platform called [revisits.com](https://revisits.com) that allows the school to set up a visit schedule during the year, and college admission representatives can search for available times and sign up for those visits. Since the visits are virtual college reps have been sending the counseling team links to share with students who are pre-registered for the virtual visits.

Students can sign up and register for different college visits on the website [naviance.com](https://naviance.com), and there is no deadline but students must be registered 24 hours beforehand. The links for the virtual visits have been a variety of platforms including

Google Meets and Zoom, and despite the visits being online there is an increase of visits this year. Last fall the school hosted 59 visits, while this year the school is confirmed to host 127 colleges. “Needless to say, our students are being provided with lots of opportunities to engage with college reps from all over the country,” Veres said. “This year has certainly been different, and we’ve had to approach the year with creativity. We have developed some great ways to keep our students moving forward in their searches.”

There are other aspects that can be shared by technology as well as available information for colleges and universities to share. This includes virtual open house programs, guided tours, individual meetings, and information sessions that have been developed to help students and parents looking into schools.

“It has been incredible to see how much information colleges and universities have been able to share by way of technology,” Veres said. “Many colleges have also shared that they continue to host smaller on-campus visits and tours.”

Veres explains that the counseling team is using Naviance when working with se-

niors, as it has a lot of tools to help students to keep their searches organized and stay moving forward. The team has also been using Google Meets for individual and group meetings with students, in order to help them through the searching and application process. They also offer a senior packet, which is a step by step guide to completing each piece of an application, it’s posted on the High School’s Counseling page.

A counseling bulletin is released each Monday and will have information on programs that are being offered by colleges and groups that assist with the search and application process. There’s also information on the Financial Aid process and how to tackle it. The bulletin is also published weekly in the Agawam Advertiser News

“Although we may not have access to students in the building as much as we have in the past, technology has made it very possible to remain engaged with our students as they travel through a really important process,” Veres said.

As for testing this year, there are limited test sites as some have cancelled. Due to these cancelations the number of seats offered have been reduced significantly,

and many seniors will not be able to sit for either the ACT or SAT. As a result, there are more colleges that have moved to a test-optional policy, meaning that students do not need to submit test scores as a part of the application process. These test-optional schools have made it clear that students will not be at a disadvantage if they don’t submit test scores.

Recently more than 1,630 statewide colleges and universities have announced they will be test-optional, though some colleges may require standardized test scores for certain majors or awarding merit money. The counseling team encourages all college bound seniors to be in contact with their schools to confirm the status of the college or universities rules on standardized test scores. Colleges have been very understanding during these times, as admission reps understand that students have been thrown a curveball. Students were slightly prepared for online schooling with the end of last school year, and they have been adjusting to the way school is currently running.

“It has been rewarding to see how resilient they have been during some very trying times,” Veres said.

## Agawam High School Counseling Bulletin

Visiting College Representatives: If you are interested in meeting with College or University Representatives that will be conducting virtual visits at our school, you must sign up in Naviance at least one day in advance. Google Meet or Zoom links will be provided when you sign up.

**November 5:**

9:20 AM	Franklin Pierce University
10:10 AM	Rivier University
12:20 PM	Sacred Heart University
1:05 PM	Framingham State University

**November 6:**

8:25 AM	Merrimack College
1:05 PM	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

**Reminders:**

Members of the Class of 2021 should familiarize themselves with the information that has been posted to the Post-Secondary Planning section under the Counseling tab of the High School webpage. Most recently, the Senior College Application Packet was added, which is a great resource for students interested in applying to two- and four-year colleges. [https://core-docs-](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/937652/Senior_Application_Packet_2020-2021.pdf)

[s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/937652/Senior\\_Application\\_Packet\\_2020-2021.pdf](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/937652/Senior_Application_Packet_2020-2021.pdf)

The COVID-19 pandemic has created uncertainty among students and families about nearly all aspects of the college admission process, including the role of standardized testing. We were scheduled to host testing in November, but did not feel it was prudent to have students from “red” area and states in our building. We looked into hosting school day testing for just Agawam students, but the next available date is in March. Due to the cancellation of SAT and ACT testing dates, more than 1,630 US colleges and universities announced they are moving to a test-optional policy, and more will surely follow. By going test-optional, institutions are making a definitive statement that they will not need test scores to make admission decisions this year. Despite the change in policies, high school students and their parents are asking, “Does test optional really mean test optional?” The answer, simply put, is: YES.

Please keep in mind that some colleges may require SAT or ACT scores for certain majors and/or the awarding of merit money. We encourage you to contact any schools that are of interest to you (website, email, or phone) to confirm that test scores

are not required for your intended major and/or the awarding of merit money.

All students should be checking their Naviance accounts on a regular basis. There is so much valuable information for all students, whether you’re headed directly into the work force, the military, or college upon graduation from AHS. If you can’t access your account, please be in touch with your School Counselor.

**Open Houses/Informational Sessions/Discovery Days:**

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) Virtual College Fairs are coming soon! The last fair will be held on November 8 (2 – 10 PM). On each fair date, more than 600 colleges and universities will offer Zoom sessions and meetings. Students everywhere can log in, drop in, and ask questions. Please register at [virtualcollegefairs.org/events](https://virtualcollegefairs.org/events)

The New England Association for College Admission Counseling (NEACAC) registration page for the Virtual Fall College Fairs is now open. Partnering with GoTo-CollegeFairs, NEACAC is excited about this opportunity for students to explore virtual “booths”, chat with admission representatives, watch presentations, and much more. More than 250 institutions will be exhibiting at the College Fair on Sunday, November 13 from 1-3 PM. Registration is required, but is free! Register now at [neacac.swoogo.com/NEACACVirtual](https://neacac.swoogo.com/NEACACVirtual) and follow the steps to gain access to the fairs.

The Professional Arts Consortium will be hosting its very first ProArts College Fair on Wednesday, November 18 from 5:00-7:00 PM. This event will be an opportunity for artistically inclined students to learn

more about our member schools and ask our admissions teams questions regarding the application process, financial aid, programs, and more. For those of you who are not familiar with ProArts, we are a consortium comprised of seven Boston-based art schools, including Berklee College of Music, Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Boston Architectural College, Emerson College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, New England Conservatory, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University.

Colleges and universities will be hosting information and recruitment events, in a variety of formats, in the next couple of months. Check the colleges’ websites for more information and to confirm the date and time of the event. While campus visits may look and feel different during this time, it is important to take advantage of these programs to learn as much as you can about the schools that are of interest to you.

Need to learn about financial aid? The trusted experts at MEFA (Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority) are hosting FREE college financing webinars four times per week beginning Monday, Sept 28th through Thurs, Nov 5th. Webinars will be held every Monday through Thursday, with daytime and evening hours, and presented by industry experts, both from within MEFA and from colleges and organizations across Massachusetts. Register for a webinar at [mefa.org/events](https://mefa.org/events).

**Scholarship Information:**

See your counselor or visit the websites below for more information or an application.

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# Obituary

## Frank T. Parrow

With great sadness the family of Frank T. Parrow announces his passing on October 30, 2020 at Mercy Medical Center. Frank was born in Pittsford Vermont on August 20, 1935 to the late Thad and Mildred Parrow. He was raised in Florence VT and attended local schools there before proudly serving his country in the United States Marine Corp. Frank married his beloved wife Jeanne in 1964 and they relocated to Agawam to raise their family. Being a skilled machinist, he retired from Danaher Tool after many years of dedicated service. True to his Vermont heritage Frank was a rugged outdoorsman who avidly enjoyed hunting and fishing and was a long-standing member of the Magawa Sportsmen Club. He could also be found playing a round of golf or watching his Boston teams the Red Sox and Patriots. The times he treasured the most were those he spent with his family and friends. He will be



fondly remembered and greatly missed. Frank is survived by his devoted wife Jeanne and his loving daughters Joanne Parrow of Agawam and Kristine and her husband Jeffrey Faricelli of West Springfield. To carry on his legacy, he leaves his adoring grandchildren Richard, Katelnyne, Kyle and Lily and his great granddaughter Savanna as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his beloved daughter Kimberly Parrow. Calling hours for Frank were held on Wednesday November 4 from 9:30-10:30 A.M. at the Agawam Funeral Home 184 Main St. A liturgy of Christian burial was held at 11 A.M at St. John The Evangelist Church 833 Main St in Agawam. Burial will immediately follow at the Agawam Center Cemetery. All COVID-19 guidelines will be adhered to. For those wishing to donate in Frank's name the family requests considering the Massachusetts Special Olympics 512 Forest St Marlborough MA 01752.

## Cultural Council announces writing competition

AGAWAM – The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring a writing competition for all Agawam Public School students. The topic is “Facing the Challenges of the Coronavirus - How did you do it?” Entries will be accepted from Oct. 15 through Nov. 30, and the winners will be chosen by members of the Agawam Cultural Council. Monetary prizes will be awarded to first, second, and third-place winning entries. The requirements for entry into this competition can be found on the ACC website and by contacting the librarians for each of the schools in Agawam. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Jane Augusti at (413) 241-7196 or by email to: maryjane.augusti@gmail.com.

For more information on the activities and virtual offerings of the Agawam Cultural Council during the current pandemic stay-at-home order, please visit their web site, at: [www.agawamcc.org](http://www.agawamcc.org). The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and is funded, in part, by the MCC. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

### COUNSELING ■ from page 6

Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC): This scholarship program offers students the opportunity to earn their degree and receive valuable leadership and management skills while enjoying the benefits of an exciting career. Several requirements exist. The deadline for submitting an application is December 31, 2020. Please visit [public.navy.mil](http://public.navy.mil) for details. Exceptional student leaders are invited to apply for the 2021 GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program. In honor of the legacy and character of President Ronald Reagan, this program annually rewards up to 20 college-bound students who demonstrate exemplary leadership, drive, integrity, and citizenship with \$10,000 renewable scholarships (up to \$40,000 per recipient). More information is available at [reaganfoundation.org](http://reaganfoundation.org). Applications will be accepted online until January 5, 2021. The 2020 Profile in Courage Essay will be offering a first place prize of \$10,000, a second place prize of \$3,000, and \$1,000 for five finalists. The maximum word count is 1,000 with a minimum of 700, not including citations and bibliographies. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2021. More information is available at [jfklibrary.org/essaycontest](http://jfklibrary.org/essaycontest)

Tenaska, founded in 1987, is a privately held energy company committed to being good neighbors in the communities where its plants are located. To express that commitment, scholarships are offered through the high schools located in the counties with plant operations (Berkshire Power Company in our area). Applicants must be a 2021 graduating high school senior who plan to attend a two- or four-year post-secondary education program at an accredited institution. The scholarship amount is \$1500, and applications, which are available at [Tenaska.com/scholarship-form](http://Tenaska.com/scholarship-form), are due no later than February 12, 2021. The American College Foundation (ACF) is offering a Visionary Scholarship, with multiple winners selected to each receive between \$1,000 and \$5,000. The application process is quick and easy and financial need is not considered. All may apply. The application is available at [AmericanCollegeFoundation.org](http://AmericanCollegeFoundation.org) and the deadline is May 1, 2021. The creators of the “Student Award Search Aid” website are offering the B. Davis Scholarship for 2021. Please visit [studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm](http://studentawardsearch.com/scholarships.htm) to read about the program and to apply for the scholarship. The amount of the award is \$1,000 and the deadline is May 24, 2021.

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Spring 2019 photo



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# SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL

## Brownies score win

HOLYOKE – Just before sports were shut down in Holyoke, Agawam visited Holyoke and picked a win 3-1 over the Knights. Julia Sweeney had 10 kills to lead Agawam in the win.



Sulamita Yukhimets makes a block for the Brownies. PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Emily Ball serves the ball.



Reese Bourgeois takes the long hit.



Emily Ehresman nearly collides with a teammate to get the hit for Agawam.



Dayna Rahill sets up a potential spike.

RACING

## Racing will return to Thompson Speedway in 2021

THOMPSON, Conn. — The high banks of Connecticut’s Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park will roar once again in 2021. American-Canadian Tour (ACT) and Pro All Stars Series (PASS) have announced a six-event schedule for the coming season that features the new Thompson Outlaw Open Modified Series.

The Outlaw Open Series consists of half a dozen high-paying events for Tour-type Modifieds that are expected to attract the top teams in the region. The series begins at the 46th annual Thompson Icebreaker from Friday, April 9 to Sunday, April 11. A 150-lap, \$10,000-to-win Outlaw Open Series event will highlight the weekend card.

The stakes get even higher at the season-ending 59th annual Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing from Friday, October 8 to Sunday, October 10. ACT and



Thompson Speedway has announced the 2021 modified series. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

FALL SPORTS

## More ‘red’ communities as fall season winds down

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

REGION – More communities in Western Massachusetts have gone “into the red” during the past week thanks to what government officials are describing as increase in gatherings where people are not observing proper safety protocols.

The actions have filtered down to high school sports as some communities in the red are forced to postpone or cancel action.

Holyoke has fully canceled the remainder of its fall sports season after spending three consecutive weeks labeled as “high-risk” for COVID-19 spreading. Holyoke was in the red for the fourth time last Thursday.

Joining Holyoke, however, are a whole host of communi-

ties in the region. Last Thursday, it was revealed Agawam, Westfield, West Springfield, Granby, and Palmer had joined Holyoke with the designation. Chicopee remained in the red for a second straight week. Monson was red last week, and managed to move down a category to the yellow, moderate risk, designation.

Per the results of the latest numbers, Granby and Palmer have temporarily ceased operations for at least a week, and two in the case Granby.

Athletic Director Alison Jordan said Granby will not be able to play high school sports for at least two weeks. Granby fit in a pair of soccer games with South Hadley last Wednesday afternoon prior to the state numbers coming out. Because of daily COVID-19 test



# Turley Sports joins Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections in the coming weeks, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

**RACING** ■ from page 8

PASS have organized the return of the historic Thompson 300, which was last contested in 2005. A \$20,000 minimum prize has been posted for the winner of the 300-lap showdown.

In addition, ACT and PASS are selling \$50 lap sponsorships for the Thompson 300. All laps that are sold will award the full \$50 to the leader of that lap. This means a driver could earn up to \$35,000 that weekend.

Four other events are scheduled in-between the Ice-breaker and World Series. The additional race dates are Wednesday, June 16; Wednesday, July 7; Wednesday, August 11; and Wednesday, September 8. These dates were chosen to minimize conflict with other tracks and series in the region, allowing teams and fans to attend as many events as they wish.

The Outlaw Open Series features at the Wednesday events will pay at least \$5,000-to-win and potentially more. Furthermore, drivers and teams that attempt to qualify for all six events will be eligible for potential provisional starting spots at the Thompson 300.

“We think the Outlaw Open Modified Series is going to be huge for teams and fans,” ACT managing partner Cris Michaud said. “The open-event model for the Modifieds has gotten a lot of traction in recent years, and we got to see it first-hand at the most recent World Series. We’re especially excited for the return of the Thompsonxf 300. Somebody will be walking away with at least \$20,000 that weekend, and it’s going to take the intensity to a whole other level.”

Thompson Speedway's local divisions will also be part of all six events, including the Sunoco Modifieds, Late Models, Limited Sportsmen/Street Stocks, SK Light Modifieds, and Mini Stocks. Although details are still being finalized, ACT and PASS officials hope to organize special events for the local divisions throughout the summer, giving each class a chance in the spotlight.

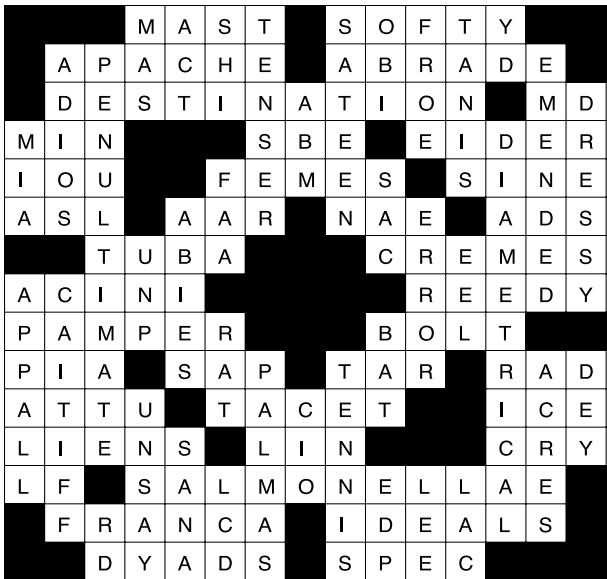
A variety of touring series and open shows will also be part of the Icebreaker and World Series weekends. More information regarding all events will be announced over the coming weeks.

“The most important part of all of this is that Thompson oval track racing will continue,” PASS owner Tom Mayberry said. “We were very satisfied with how the Thompson 150 and World Series went in 2020, and those events showed the appetite is still there for racing in eastern Connecticut. With those events to build on, we think the excitement for Thompson Speedway is going to be even bigger in 2021.

For more information about the American-Canadian Tour, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, [media@acttour.com](mailto:media@acttour.com), or visit [www.acttour.com](http://www.acttour.com). You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at [@ACTTour](https://www.facebook.com/ACTTour).

For technical information concerning all PASS divisions, and for media or marketing questions, please contact [passracing@roadrunner.com](mailto:passracing@roadrunner.com) or visit [www.proallstarseries.com](http://www.proallstarseries.com). Don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens.

For general Thompson Speedway inquiries, call (860) 923-2280, email [oval@thompsons Speedway.com](mailto:oval@thompsons Speedway.com), or visit [www.thompsons Speedway.com](http://www.thompsons Speedway.com). You can follow Thompson Speedway on Facebook and Instagram at @Thompson-Speedway or on Twitter at @ThompsonSpdwy.



# Air Force event to occur in 'Bubbleville' at Mohegan

UNCASVILLE, Conn. – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame announced today a revised field of teams and schedule for the 2020 Air Force Reserve Tip-Off Tournament. The annual NCAA men's exempt tournament sponsored by the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference will now take place Saturday, November 28, Sunday, November 29, Thursday, December 3 and Friday, December 4 at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut.

“The Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament has been held at Mohegan Sun Arena for many years with great success. COVID-19 and the uncharted college basketball restart has undoubtedly brought many challenges, but we’re proud to have a partner and venue that provides us the opportunity to host this annual event under a new set of safety protocols,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Basketball Hall of Fame. “We look forward to hosting this year’s field of teams in a bubble-like atmosphere at beautiful Mohegan Sun.”

The Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament is split into two brackets, Naismith and Springfield. The Naismith bracket will play November 28 and 29 and includes University of Rhode Island (Atlantic 10), University of South Florida (American Athletic), Temple University (American Athletic), Virginia Tech (Atlantic Coast). The Springfield bracket will play December 3 and 4 and includes University at Albany (America East), Drexel University (Colonial), Long Island University (Northeast), and Quinnipiac University (Metro Atlantic). Game times and television broadcast details and will be released at a later date. For more information, please visit [www.halloffamemetipoff.com](http://www.halloffamemetipoff.com).

The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and Gazelle Group are collaborating to produce multiple college basketball games at Mohegan Sun from November 25 through December 5, 2020 and have named the space “Bubbleville.” Bubbleville will house several events

**FALL SPORTS** ■ from page 8

numbers coming in, Granby town officials were aware of the fact the town would soon be labeled high-risk. This is the second time Granby is in the red. It happened prior to the high school season in early September, but only lasted for one week.

Due to local protocols, sports had to be shut down. The same is true in Palmer, where games are postponed through at least Thursday, Nov. 5. Games Friday are still on the schedule in hopes Palmer gets out of the high-risk designation when new numbers are released on Thursday. However, Pathfinder Regional remains playing this week. Pathfinder, which has students in numerous communities in the surrounding area, is located in Palmer.

Agawam, Westfield, and Chicopee continue to play sports despite their high-risk designation.

However, in the case of Chicopee, if the city continues in the red this Thursday, both Chicopee and Chicopee Comprehensive could be forced to shut down their sports at least temporarily.

Agawam remains playing into this week, though their schedule is set to wind down in the next week or so with the final week and a half remaining for makeup games.

The fall season is set to conclude on Nov. 20. There are no postseason tournaments planned, including any league tournament through the PVIAC as of press time.

relocated and reimagined due to COVID-19 and provides a controlled environment with teams and event staff adhering to tribal, government, and NCAA health and safety protocols and testing requirements.

# Help feature your student-athletes

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
*gscibelli@turley.com*

The fall season is nearing its end and Turley Publications has been all over the action.

But with this unpredictable season there have been temporary or in some cases, permanent stoppages in play, and we still want to help feature your athletes, especially those who are seniors this year.

We continue to ask for help on this season in order to bring the best coverage we can possibly manage and fill our pages with names and color.

We know that fans will be limited to the home crowds, but that is where you all come in.

We have a limited number of staff to start the school year due to the pandemic, and while we strive to get to as many games as possible, we cannot get to everywhere.

If you are a parent, coach, or even player, and you have information or photographs to share, we definitely want to hear from you.

If you don't see one of our photographers at a game, please feel free to send your own action photos of games in order to bolster our coverage. If you are interested in regularly submitted photos, please do contact us.

Otherwise, we would love to hear from anyone who reports scores, details, and any milestones that occur during this unprecedented season. Please be sure the information you provide us is accurate and check with coaches, if necessary, before submitting.

Additionally, with the various senior games that have been held already or are still waiting to be held, we welcome submitted photos from those events and information about graduating seniors who participated in Fall 1 sports.

We also encourage all coaches to submit their results and details as much as possible. Send any and all information and photos for inclusion to [sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com).

# NOTICE

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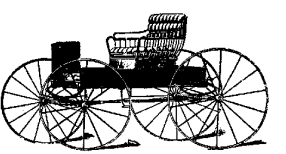
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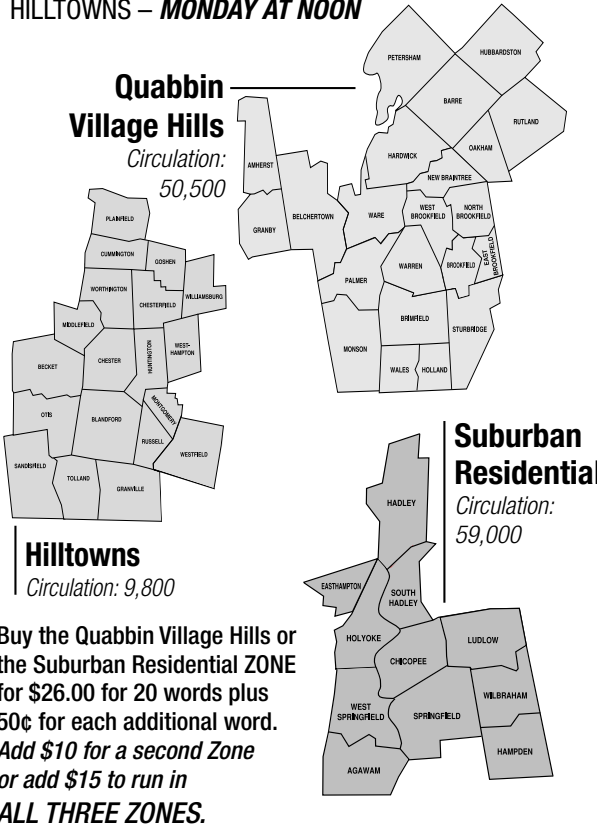
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# Public Notices

## LEGAL AD AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet remotely, due to the COVID -19 restrictions, through **Zoom** at **6:00 PM on Thursday, November 12, 2020**. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the application of O'Krongly for a Request for Determination of Applicability on property located at 847 North Street.

By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski,  
Chairman  
AGAWAM  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION  
**Copy the link below to join the webinar:**  
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**Webinar ID:** 833 4938 2211

**Or join by phone:**  
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(Germantown, NY) or +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago)  
11/05/2020

## AGAWAM CABLE COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Cable Commission will hold a public hearing **via Zoom** on **Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 6:00PM** for all parties interested regarding the cable television license renewal agreement between Comcast and the Town of Agawam.

**Join Zoom Meeting:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87662010250?pwd=VD-d4Zis4NnJhY2YxYjFQMl-F1UXlaQT09>  
**Passcode:** 01001  
**Webinar ID:** 876 6201 0250

**Or iPhone one-tap :**  
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+13017158592,7662010250#  
Calls must be made by 6:00PM to provide testimony.  
Robert Goff, Chair  
Cable Commission  
11/05, 11/12/2020

## LEGAL NOTICE Agawam Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Performance Hearing

The Agawam Planning and Community Development Department will conduct a performance hearing regarding their ongoing Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). Future projects under consideration as well as the town's current FY 2018 and FY 2019 CDBG programs will be discussed. The hearing will be digital/remote meeting held **6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 18, 2020**.

The current FY18 and FY19 CDBG are funding multiple activities that include housing rehabilitation, planning initiatives, roof improvements for Brady Village and Microenterprise assistance. Agawam also recently received another CDBG, funded through the Federal Cares Act that is providing additional Microenterprise assistance to qualified small business in Agawam and Southwick. Cares Act funds are also supporting Our Community Food Pantry in Southwick.

Any person or organization having questions or comments concerning the CDBG program and ongoing activities will have an opportunity to be heard. Persons who require special accommodations should contact the Town prior to the hearing date at (413) 263-3044.

**This meeting will be conducted remotely through Zoom;** an online audio web media conferencing platform. Persons who wish to attend and comment on the CDBG program may do so by joining the meeting through the following web link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89966433810?pwd=OGlqS-1gwZ0wyUnhCc25haDhB-d0xhZz09>  
11/05/2020

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD20P1867EA Estate of: Priscilla J Martel Date of Death: 04/22/2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ricky J Martel** of Feeding Hills, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Ricky J Martel** of Feeding Hills, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/23/2020**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of

Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

## UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 27, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
11/05/2020

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD17P1686PM  
In the matter of:

## How to submit legal notices

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com). Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie Joslyn directly at 413-283-8393, ext. 216.

Turley Publications Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com) for more information.

## Julia Townley Of: Agawam, MA Protected Person/ Disabled Person/ Respondent CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **First and Final** account(s) of Eileen Sullivan-Boss, Esq. of West Springfield, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

**You have the right to object to the account(s).** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before **10:00 A.M. on the return date of 11/16/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day

(or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: October 19, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
11/05/2020

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

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# NAMI support group changes

**Staff report**

REGION – The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-WM) of Western Massachusetts would like to inform the public that our NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group schedule has changed again due to COVID-19.

- Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
access online with zoom: <https://bostonmedicalcenter.zoom.us/j/955331152>  
access by phone: 1-646-558-8656 (meeting ID: 955 331 152)
- Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.  
access online with zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/859002245>  
access by phone: 1-929-205-6099 (meeting ID: 859 002 245)
- @home Connection Support Group  
First and third Thursday of the month from 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
access online with zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84883272163>  
more information about NAMI Mass @

home: <https://namimass.org/nami-mass-home/>

- Fridays at 10:30 a.m.  
access online with zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/621974217>  
access by phone: 1-929-205-6099 (meeting ID: 621 974 217)

A diagnosis is not required to attend any group. Anyone with mental health condition is welcome to attend any group without prior registration.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Western Massachusetts is dedicated to helping improve the quality of life for individuals and families affected by mental illness through support, education and advocacy. According to statistics, 1 in 5 Americans will face mental health problems every year. With your help, NAMI can continue its work as America's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.



The Wistariahurst Museum will present a virtual program about Sarah Margu.

## Virtual program to tell story of Sarah Margu, a child of the Amistad

HOLYOKE – On Thursday, Nov. 5 at 6:30 p.m., Wistariahurst will host Sarah Margu - A Child of the Amistad, a live, online program presented by Tammy Denease. This program is free and open to all. Advance registration is required.

One of four children held captive on the schooner Amistad, Sarah Margu would miss the rite of passage (Sande Society) into adulthood in her native Mendeland (now Sierre Leone). After gaining freedom through a victory in the United States legal system, Margu would go on to become the first African to graduate from college in America (Oberlin College, Ohio). Life in a strange country causes Margu to become westernized, refusing to live according to the custom of her homeland. Share with Tammy Denease this poignant voyage from childhood denial to adult autonomy.

This program is open to all members of the public, but has been specially designed to address the needs of area seniors, many of whom continue to be socially isolated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is supported through a Commu-

nity Development Block Grant - COVID-19 Grant to address, prevent, and respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic that is administered through the Holyoke Office of Community Development and has been planned in consultation with the Holyoke Council on Aging. Additional support has been provided through NEH CARES Act funding granted by Mass Humanities.

To register for Sarah Margu - A Child of the Amistad or any future programs, please visit [www.Wistariahurst.org](http://www.Wistariahurst.org) or contact Eileen Maginnis at the Holyoke Council on Aging at [maginnise@holyokey.org](mailto:maginnise@holyokey.org). If you have an idea for a topic you'd like to be considered for a future Wistariahurst session, please contact [info@wistariahurst.org](mailto:info@wistariahurst.org).

Future virtual programs will focus on a diverse range of historical and cultural topics including programs on nature, art, history, travel, and social justice. Upcoming presentations are set to include the natural history of the Pioneer Valley, the labor movement and women's organizing in local factories, and the history of Holyoke's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

## Drive-up flu clinics coming to HCC

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will serve as a host site for drive-up flu vaccine clinics during the next few weeks.

The clinics will be held on Fri., Oct. 23; Tues., Nov. 3; and Fri., Nov. 6. They are being provided by the Holyoke Board of Health and CVS Pharmacy and will be open to the general public.

All the clinics run from 8 – 11 a.m. and will be held in Parking Lot M next to HCC's Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation on the main campus at 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke, the same location where free COVID-19 testing is underway until Oct. 31.

The flu vaccines are free with most insurance, including MassHealth. Pre-registration is not required but highly recommended to ensure sufficient supply.

These are drive-up clinics, so there is no need to exit your vehicle. Free face masks

will also be distributed on site.

Appointments can be scheduled for 20-minute time slots by following the links on the HCC website to the CVS Pharmacy registration pages for each day: [hcc.edu/flu](http://hcc.edu/flu)

### Church to hold holiday tag sale

AGAWAM – There will be a huge Christmas Tag Sale at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., on Nov. 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All types of Christmas items: ornament, dishes, home decor and more. Face coverings must be worn and social distancing guidelines will be in place.

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